

Pragmasis Shed Door Security *Beef-Up Kit* Fitting Instructions

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Overview

Use a good quality hasp & staple and padlock on the door. The hasp should be fixed to the shed with at least one coach bolt or machine screw and the same for the staple and again for each side of the door hinges. Ordinary screws can be pulled out by a thief with a crowbar, screwdriver or even a garden spade!

The photo to the right shows an example of our intention with the *Beef-Up* kit: to replace some of the simple wood screw fixings with coach bolts. Note that it is only necessary to replace one fixing on each side of each hinge – this example uses two bolts on the frame side of the hinge, but this is not essential. If you have sufficient bolts to allow you to do this, go ahead if you wish!



The photo below shows another example, where the hasp & staple has sufficient clearance to accept coach bolts on both sides. Sometimes, these are already fitted with a coach bolt on one side but only wood screws on the other side! In that case, it is sufficient to replace one of those wood screws alone. Countersunk-headed machine screws are included for use on hasp & staples that have insufficient clearance for coach bolts.



The photo to the right is typical of the inside view of a nut on one of the bolts. This nut is *much* harder for a thief to pull through the wood than a simple wood screw.

The *Beef-Up* kit provides coach bolts and machine screws that are suitable for many sheds. If you need something slightly different, your supplier or local DIY store will probably be able to help. If you are unsure, please contact your supplier for advice.



What Tools Will I Need?

The *Beef-Up Kit* includes coach bolts and nuts, as well as an appropriate drill bit. The only tools you will normally require are:

- An electric drill with at least a 10mm chuck capacity
- A 10mm AF spanner, socket or adjustable wrench
- A flat-bladed screwdriver
- Eye protection – goggles or a visor should be worn
- Maybe a small hammer; Maybe a countersink bit (see below)

How Long Should I Allow to *Beef-Up* my Shed Door?

30 minutes should be plenty.

Fitting a *Beef-Up Kit* is *easy*!

What Parts Should be in the *Beef-Up Kit*?

The *Beef-Up Kit* contains:

- M6 x 60mm long coach bolts, fully threaded, zinc plated (qty. 6)
(longer bolts available as options)
- M6 x 60mm countersunk head machine screws, fully threaded, zinc plated (qty. 2)
(ditto)
- M6 nuts, zinc plated (qty. 8)
- M6 spring washers, zinc plated (qty. 8)
- M6 flat washers, zinc plated (qty. 8)
- 8.0mm HSS drill bit
- These instructions

How to *Beef-Up* Your Shed Door

The *Beef-Up Kit* is designed to be fitted by a typical DIYer. You should be comfortable using a drill to make holes in wood, but little experience is required beyond that.

You should read through these instructions in their entirety *before starting to fit a Beef-Up kit*. If you are not confident of your ability, you should ask an experienced person or professional to help.

- 1. Check the contents of the Fitting Kit:** Ensure the fitting kit is complete (the items are listed above). Contact your supplier if there are any parts missing or damaged.
- 2. Choose which fixings to use:** The *Beef-Up* kit includes coach bolts that are normally used on the hinges, and countersunk-headed machine screws that are normally appropriate for the hasp & staple. **This can be adapted depending upon the type of door fittings you have!** If your hasp & staple will close properly with coach bolts in place of some of the screws, that is fine and you would then likely have the machine screws spare and not used. Conversely, if the hasp & staple have insufficient clearance for the coach bolt heads, then they will usually be fitted as standard with countersunk wood screws and the countersunk machine screws will be appropriate replacements instead. In the latter case, you may have a pair of coach bolts spare and not used (or have them available for fitting to a third hinge, if you have one). You could use a machine screw on the staple side and a coach bolt on the hasp side. The kit includes a selection of parts and you can vary the way that you use them to suit the door furniture on your particular door – do not feel that you must use all of the parts!

Think it through in advance! Make sure that you have enough fixings to complete your plan! Don't use all the fixings on a single hinge and find that you have nothing left to do the other hinge!

Important Note: The slot-headed machine screws must not be used in a situation where they are not covered by the hasp & staple when it is locked! Since the machine screws have a slot head, they are not tamper proof unless covered by something else.

- 3. Prepare to drill and then drill the holes for the new fixings:** Since you are replacing a few of the existing fixings, it is necessary to remove them before you can drill through the wood for the new fixings. It is best to do these one at a time so that the hinges etc remain firmly held while you are upgrading their fixings. Typically, you would unscrew one of the existing screws and then, using eye protection and the appropriate drill bit, carefully drill the hole out large enough to clear the new fixing you have selected. The existing hole will help to guide the drill. You may need to remove the drill occasionally to clear wood from the drill bit, especially if the wood is damp. Try to reduce the pressure on the drill when you are about to burst through the far side of the wood, to avoid splitting.

The idea is that the 8.0mm drill bit gives a hole in the metal hinge, for example, that will *just* grip the square shoulder under the coach bolt head but that will allow the bolt to pull in flush when the nut is tightened.

If you are working on a hasp & staple, you may find that the existing holes are already large enough to take the M6 machine screw, but if they aren't, you may need to drill them out *and* countersink the larger hole so that the head of the machine screw sits low enough to allow the hasp to close sufficiently over the staple. A countersink bit is *not* included in this kit but should be available from DIY stores etc. Note that an *HSS* bit would be appropriate – a countersink intended for use solely on wood will not be able to cut metal satisfactorily.

- 4. Fit the new coach bolt or machine screw in place of the previous fixing:** As you finish drilling each hole, ensure it is clear of sawdust and fit the replacement fixing, tapping it home with a hammer if necessary. In the case of a coach bolt, do not worry that the bolt head does not sit snug against the wall at this stage – the square section under the bolt head will sink into the metal/wood when the nut is tightened, which is what you do next.

What if the bolt is too short? If your timbers are unusually thick, you may find that you need to *counterbore* the hole from the inside of the shed, or to use longer bolts than are supplied in the kit. Most DIY stores can supply longer fixings and you can use these instead, if required. Contact your supplier for advice if you experience difficulty.

- 5. Fit the washers and nuts:** Fit a flat washer and then a spring washer on the inside of the shed and then add a nut on each new fixing. Tighten the nuts, holding the bolt head with the help of an assistant if necessary. It is not important if the bolt spins and you are unable to get the nuts particularly tight. The simple presence of a nut on the inside of the shed means that the bolt can't be easily pulled through the wood. Providing the nut isn't so loose as to come off, it should be fine!
- 6. Repeat until you've fitted all the new fixings that are required.** You do not need to use all of the fittings in the kit: Providing you have a bolt on *each* side of *each* hinge *and* a bolt on *each* side of the hasp & staple, you've improved the security of your shed door significantly. Once that's done, you're finished. Well done ☺

Further Measures and General Advice

Remember that a shed is vulnerable to attack. Keep the shed door locked whenever possible and use a good quality chain and lock to secure valuables to something like a Shed Shackle or a properly installed ground anchor inside the shed. DIY stores offer simple but effective movement detector alarms that are battery powered. The combination of *Beefed-Up* door security and these other physical deterrents and the noise made by an alarm should encourage a thief to leave empty-handed.

Please visit www.SecurityForBikes.com for more security products and advice.